

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 MC-02 EB-11 OMB-01 COME-00

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P R 281755Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3619

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB

SUBJECT: SALE OF DC-8 TO GABONESE FIRM

REF: STATE 169074; LIBREVILLE 730 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. REPORT BY CORRESPONDENT PAUL EDDY GIVING DETAILS OF OPERATIONS OF AFFRETAIR DC-8 WHICH ALLEGEDLY HAS BEEN RUNNING RHODESIAN BEEF TO ATHENS IN CONTRAVENTION OF UN SANCTIONS APPEARED IN SUNDAY TIMES AUGUST 26. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, AIRCRAFT (REGISTRATION NUMBER IS TR LQR) MAKES TWO OR THREE RUNS A WEEK TO ATHENS, THEN FLIES TO GERMANY AND HOLLAND WHERE IT PICKS UP CARGO FOR WEST AFRICA' THIS AIRCRAFT IS SAID TO STOP IN LIBREVILLE ONLY FOR REFUELLING. HOWEVER, THE EDDY REPORT STATES THAT ANOTHER AIRCRAFT, A DC-6 BELONGING TO AIR TRANS AFRICA, MAKES REGULAR RUNS FROM SALISBURY TO LIBREVILLE TO BRING IN RHODESIAN BEEF.

2. THE SUNDAY TIMES ARTICLE STATES THAT BOTH AFFRETAIR AND AIR TRANS AFRICA ARE OWNED BY A FORMER RAF PILOT

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NAMED JACK MALLOCH WHO DID SOME SURREPTITIOUS GUN-RUNNING

FOR THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT DURING THE BIAFRAN WAR.
AMONG THE OTHER PERSONALITIES MENTIONED IN THE ARTICLE
IS GREEK BUSINESSMAN STAVROS TSONIS, WHO REPORTEDLY HAS
BEEN BUYING UP TO 60 TONS OF RHODESIAN BEEF A WEEK (A
QUARTER OF ALL MEAT IMPORTED INTO GREECE).

3. "OBSERVER" FOR AUGUST 26 HAS ARTICLE DATED WASH-
INGTON DESCRIBING HOW DC-8 WAS SOLD TO MALLOCH AND DIS-
CUSSES REPORT BY ANTHONY LAKE OF CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR
INTERNATIONAL PEACE CRITICIZING USG'S ENFORCEMENT OF
RHODESIAN SANCTIONS.

4. BOTH ARTICLES BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT (AF/S)
AND LIBREVILLE.
SOHM

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